

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (new): Footwear comprising:

an insole provided in a front portion of a surface of an outer sole of the footwear, the surface being arranged to contact with a sole of a foot; wherein

said insole is provided with a shock absorber that is arranged to contact with a front portion of the sole of the foot to absorb an impact.

Claim 9 (new): The footwear according to claim 8, further comprising:

an upper leather member and a shoe sole bonded at an upper portion thereof to the upper leather member, the upper leather member being shaped to enclose an instep of the foot and having a bottom opening rim closely corresponding to an outer shape of the sole of the foot; wherein

the insole is bonded to a front portion of the bottom opening rim of said upper leather member such that a front portion of the upper leather member is configured in the shape of a bag to enclose a toe, and said insole is provided with the shock absorber.

Claim 10 (new): The footwear according to claim 8, wherein said shock absorber comprises a gel.

Claim 11 (new): The footwear according to claim 8, wherein the shock absorber has an Asker F hardness in the range of about 30 to about 90.

Claim 12 (new): The footwear according to claim 8, wherein the shock absorber has an Asker F hardness in the range of about 30 to about 90 and an Asker C hardness in the range of about 10 to about 25.

Claim 13 (new): The footwear according to claim 8, wherein the insole has a length and a width corresponding to those of a region of the sole of the foot from a tip of the toe to a front end of an arch.

Claim 14 (new): The footwear according to claim 8, wherein the shock absorber has a length and width corresponding to those of a region of the sole of the foot from a tip of the toe to a front end of an arch.

Claim 15 (new): The footwear according to claim 8, further comprising a heel attached to the outer sole at a rear portion thereof.

Claim 16 (new): The footwear according to claim 8, further comprising a half midsole defined by a sheet bonded to a rear portion of the surface of the outer sole.

Claim 17 (new): The footwear according to claim 9, wherein the upper leather member includes an outer material portion and a lining portion disposed inwardly of the outer material portion.

Claim 18 (new): The footwear according to claim 9, wherein the upper leather member is bonded to the outer sole via a bottom opening rim of the upper leather member that is folded inward.

Claim 19 (new): The footwear according to claim 8, wherein said insole includes a gel that is sandwiched between two fabric members which are bonded together.

Claim 20(new): The footwear according to claim 19 wherein said two fabric members are made of a non-woven material.

Claim 21 (new): The footwear according to claim 10, wherein the gel is made of a material selected from the group consisting of silicon resins, polyurethane resins, acrylamide gels, thermoplastic elastomers, epoxy resins and starch-based gels.

Claim 22 (new): The footwear according to claim 10, wherein the gel includes a polyurethane resin including polyol and isocyanate.

Claim 23 (new): The footwear according to claim 22, wherein the gel further includes a plasticizer.

Claim 24 (new): The footwear according to claim 8, wherein the insole is about 5 mm thick.